### Serving Those Who Served

The Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) is a full-service state agency that assists veterans, their family members and survivors.

1-800-562-2308

By partnering with local, state and federal agencies, WDVA offers a complete referral service to provide veterans with accurate and current information on the entire range of veterans' benefits and entitlements.

www.dva.wa.gov

WDVA is committed to meeting the needs of our state's recently deployed veterans and their families serving in Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Noble Eagle.

As they return home, our goal is to ensure a successful transition from active duty to civilian life by providing help with jobs, training, counseling and emergency financial assistance.

Call our Toll-Free Phone Number 1-800-562-2308 to be connected to a service officer near you.

Why Go It Alone?

We're YOUR Department of Veterans Affairs

Call Us Today! 1-800-562-2308

www.dva.wa.gov



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Olympia, WA 98504-1155

Printed 8/06

# **Washington State Benefits** for **Veterans** and **Family** Members

"Serving Those Who Served"



1-800-562-2308 *www.dva.wa.gov* 

#### **State Benefits**

**Recording of Discharges -** County Clerks will provide free recording of the official discharge of each veteran who served in the U.S. Armed Forces, as a confidential record.

**Employment Preference -** Veterans may receive scoring criteria status in competitive examinations for public employment.

**Educational Benefits -** Veterans may receive a reduced tuition rate at certain state universities and community colleges. Please contact the veteran's representative at the college you plan to attend for further information.

Reemployment and Layoff Rights – Eligible Veterans are protected by State laws pertaining to returning veterans. There is a 90-day limit after date of discharge. Please call the US Department of Labor – VETS, 1-866-487-2365 or Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, 1-800-336-4590.

Military Retirement Credit - Washington State Department of Retirement Systems offers military retirement credit to qualified public employees. 1-800-547-6657.

Special Veteran License Plates - Washington State Department of Licensing offers several distinctive license plates for veterans, to include Former Prisoners of War, Medal of Honor, Purple Heart and Pearl Harbor Survivors as well as free license plates for 100% service connected disabled veterans.

**Fishing/Hunting License Fees -** Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife offers reduced licensing fees for qualified disabled veterans rated 30% service connected or more.

State and National Park Passes - Washington State Parks and Recreation offers reduced and/or free passes to qualified disabled veterans rated 30% service connected or greater. For State Park Passes, call 360-902-8500. For National Park Passes call 1-888-467-2757.

#### **Reduced Public Transportation Fees -**

Washington State Ferries and local participating transit authorities, offer disabled veteran passengers travel at a reduced rate. Please contact your local transit authority for more information. For reduced ferry rates, please contact the WA State Ferries at 206-515-3460.

## Why Go It Alone?

WDVA provides services and outreach across the state through Veterans Service Offices and by training local post and chapter service officers to assist veterans in obtaining benefits.

#### **WDVA Contracted Veteran Service Offices**

African-American PTSD Group – 253-589-0766 American Legion – 206-220-6223 American Veterans – 206-220-6244 Military Order of Purple Heart – 206-220-6230 Nat'l Assoc. for Black Veterans – 253-475-5606 Veterans of Foreign Wars – 206-220-6191 Vietnam Veterans of America – 206-220-6731

#### **State Programs**

## Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Counseling 1-800-562-2308

WDVA provides an outreach/counseling program to veterans with war-era and PTSD-related problems. All honorably discharged veterans and family members – including WWII, Korea, Vietnam and the various recent periods of conflict and peace-keeping operations – are eligible for counseling.

## Homeless Veterans Reintegration Project 1-800-562-2308

WDVA provides an individually designed case management plan to help homeless veterans find employment and offers assistance with housing, food, transportation, and employment support services.

# Veterans Estate Management Program 1-800-562-2308

WDVA acts as fiduciary/payee for veterans and their family members incapable of managing their own financial affairs. Our program ensures basic needs such as housing, food, clothing and medical care are provided.

## State Veterans Homes 1-877-838-7787

WDVA operates three high-quality, long-term nursing and assisted-living care homes for honorably discharged veterans in Orting (near Puyallup), Retsil (near Port Orchard) and Spokane. (Spokane provides long-term nursing care only.)

1-800-562-2308